

Docket No. 366325-120
US App. No. 09/340,338

REMARKS

Claims 43-114 are currently pending in this application. Claim 42 has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-41 have previously been canceled without prejudice. Claims 43, 44, 47-50, 52, 55, 56, and 96 have been amended. Claims 104-114 have been added. No new matter has been added. Support for the amendments can be found on page 5, lines 3-15 of the specification and throughout the original claims.

The following remarks put the pending claims in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

35 USC § 102(e) Rejection over Denzer

Claims 42, 43, 47, 48, and 50-56 stood rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) for allegedly being anticipated by Denzer, U.S. Pat. 6,007,836.

Claim 42 has been canceled. Additionally, claims 47, 48, and 50 have been amended to change their dependency from rejected claim 42 to objected claim 44. Claims 43, 52, 55, and 56 have been amended to change their dependency from rejected claim 42 to objected claim 49. Thus, claims 43, 47, 48, 50, claim 51 which depends therefrom, claim 52, claims 53 and 54 which depend therefrom, and claims 55-56 are now allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection based on 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

Claim Objections

Claims 44-46 and 49 stand objected to as being dependent from a rejected base claim.

The amendments have rewritten objected claims 44 and 49 as independent claims incorporating all the subject matter of the previous base claim and any intervening

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claims. Therefore, as these claims and those depending therefrom are now allowable, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the claim objections.

Newly Added Claims

Claims 104-114 have been added by the instant amendment. These claims all depend from previously allowed claims. Therefore, these claims are all in condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants believe this response to be a full and complete response to the Office Action. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 43-114. As the application is believed to be in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowability. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative should any further issues arise

Respectfully submitted,

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